Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals
Upon Carrent Topics—Compiled Every
Day for the Evening Telegraph.

CUBA.

From the N. Y. World.

It is not generally known in the United States, but it is a fact, that General Prim has been all along prepared to acquiesce in the independence of Cuba, so far as the political power of Spain is concerned, whenever the latter could be accomplished without undue offense to the sensibilities of Spaniards in the Peninsula. The plan for the purchase of the island by the Cubans, with the guarantee of this country, first developed in the World, was cordially indersed by General Prim; and we think that when Congress meets and the facts of the Forbes-Sickles mission are made public by a resolution of Congress, it will be felt that the general idea which inspired the propositions, on the part of this country, that followed a tender of our good offices to Spain, and which she accepted with gratitude, ought to have prevailed and borne fruit.

The plan, as put in shape by the World, was not free from difficulty. What affair of that magnitude ever was? We foresaw that the opponents of the plan in Spain could well enough deny the existence of any evidence that the people of the island wished to be rid of Spanish control, or, if independence was their desire, that they preferred to have Cespedes and his party to rule over them and make contracts and pledges in their behalf. The propriety of obtaining the popular will of Cuba before handing the island about, like a box of sugar, to the highest bidder, or insisting that it be subject to the strongest foreign arm, is evident. Anybody is equal to the task of stating and exaggerating that propriety. But how is the popular will to be ascertained? Who is to vote? Is it to be universal suffrage of Spaniards, Creoles, Chinese, and the six hundred thousand Africans. more or less, bond and free? The recent Republican Convention of New York pledged its hearty support to any action on the part of the Government tending to the final annexation of Cuba, whenever she shall have achieved her independence and her people desire such action.

Who are "her people?" We appreciated, too, the extreme delicacy and difficulty of the task of inducing Spain to deal, in any form of negotiation, with her own citizens who are in arms against her authority. It was natural that Spain should insist that the Cespedes insurgents first disband, and go about peaceful pursuits, on promise of full pardon; and it was equally natural that Cespedes refuse. But even that matter this Government ought to have been able to arrange, although we do not fail to recognize how much the possibility was diminished by want of power in the executive without Congress-

ional aid. But, after all, we think the negotiation broke down because of reasons hinted at, rather than explained. There was not unity of action by the persons constituting the Government at Washington. So far as we can learn, the Government itself spoke wisely through the Secretary of State, Mr. Fish, in all official notes on the subject. The instructions to Forbes and Sickles were we are told, discreet and considerate; but while the responsible minister of our foreign affairs was so sagaciously and judiciously launching the negotiation, in a manner to commend us and our proffered good offices to Spain, Mr. Sickles and certain members of Grant's Cabinet, if not Grant himself, were pursuing very different methods, or, at least, methods fairly susceptible of an interpretation Grant proclaimed, on his travels about the land, that "we must have free Cuba." At least two, if not three, members of Cabinet-and one of them known to be in every way nearer to the President than any other member-were equally outspoken, and were giving audiences in Washington to representatives of the Cespedes pretension in Cuba. Just then, and while the negotiation in Madrid was in the crisis of its fate, came news of Grant's order to seize the Spanish gunboats, an act which could just as well have been postponed two months. All this was extremely unfortunate for free Cuba. It was caught up, of course, and quickly transmitted to Spain. The enemies in Madrid of the plan proposed were able to say that the Washington Government was really in alliance with the insurgents, and hostile to Spain, and that the purport of our good offices was but a reflex of the demands of Cespedes. Hence the late expression of public feeling in the Peninsula in respect to us and Cuba. As to Sickles' recent note, we fancy there is much exaggeration as to its tone; but enough has been said and done in Madrid, in consequence

or threats of interference, in Cuba. The cause of free Cuba has earnest friends in Spain, and it should be our object to strengthen them against their enemies at home. It is too late now to stop the reinforcements which have been ordered. The work of death must, with cool weather, be resumed. It was sending these reinforcements the World hoped to prevent. Spain has a right to a reasonable time and opportunity to reduce her insurgents to subjection. Thirty thousand fresh troops may accomplish the result. But if they do not, and in one year from now the result be as it is to-day, our hope is that this Government will keep itself in condition of such honest neutrality that when it moves again it may move with better results.

of what it contained, or was supposed to con-

tain, to show pretty clearly the condition of

the public mind there as to our interference,

PACKER'S OPINIONS.

From the N. Y. Tribune.

In the prevailing uncertainty as to the Democratic principles for the present campaign, we believe the faithful in Pennsylvania have been in especial perplexity. The De-mocracy of Ohio can feel themselves orthodox if they follow Pendleton and demand taxation of the bonds and payment in greenbacks. The Democracy of New York are at liberty to cry for either specie payment with Belmont or repudiation with Tweed, or, if they prefer, to go for both together, as most of them actually do. Pennsylvania, however, has hitherto had no platform; and when one of the interviewers of the Herald tackled Judge Packer, the other day, at the Bathlehem railroad station, the party must have awaited the utterances of their candidate with such anxiety as used to fill the breasts of inquiring worshippers at the shrines of Delphi and Dodona. We regret to say that Judge Packer's opinions are not a bit more decided than those of the oracles of old; but they have at least this merit, that they leave his followers a wide latitude of choice. Questioned about finances, he "could not say that he had any better ideas on that subject than anybody plse-probably not as good," and immediately proved it by denouncing the proposition to fund part of the debt at a lower rate of interest as repudiation, "because the Govern- | and liberty had, after a great and perilous

ment has no right to issue bonds at a cortain | struggle, divided the Territories of the Rerate, and then make the persons who have them take others of a less value." As nobody has proposed that the Government shall do anything of the kind, the bearings of Mr. Packer's observations are not clear. The funding scheme contemplates no forced exchange whatever, but merely the sale of consols to those who may want to buy them; and those who may want to buy them; and those who don't want to buy them can leave them alone. Cornered at last by the question, "Is the Democratic party in favor of repudiating the national debt?" the Judge made the remarkable reply—"Well, this is a pretty serious matter, and would have to be considered. I do not know what the Democratic party think about that." Tempted with the tariff, he remarked, "This matter is divided-some want free trade and some high tariff. The tariff is a question that can never be settled satisfactorily to all parties. Free trade would probably hurt some and a high tariff a good many more; so it is a difficult problem to discuss." Asked his opinion about the eighthour law, he-smiled! Then the train arrived, and Judge Packer "received evident relief from that source;" at which we don't wonder in the least.

We recollect nothing in history quite equal to these opinions, except the sentiments expressed by the placid gentleman whom Mr. Snodgrass encountered in the Peacock Inn at Eatanswill-"a man of bland voice who always made it a point to agree with everybody. 'Show me' the man,' observed Mr. Snodgrass, 'who says anything against women, as women, and I boldly declare he is not a man. "That's a good sound argument,' said the placid man. 'Containing a position which I deny,' interrupted he of the dirty countenance. 'And there's certainly a very great deal of truth in what you observe, too, Sir, said the placid gentleman." So Judge Packer, running for Governor of one of the greatest States of the Union and asked for a statement of his principles touching the most important questions of the campaign, is only clear as to this, that there is a great deal to be said on both sides. One of the vital problems of the day, both in State and Federal politics, is the problem of finance; but Judge Packer says he does not know anything about finance. What does he think about repudiation? Well, he doesn't know what he thinks about repudiation; some people like it, but then, you see, some people don't. What does he think about the tariff? Well, he doesn't know what he thinks about the tariff; some people want protection, but then, you see, some people want free trade. What does he think about the labor question? Well, he doesn't know what he thinks about the labor question; some people take one view of it, but then again some people take another. Now we hope the Pennsylvania Democracy, having sounded their leader and got all they are likely to get out of him, will make up their declaration of faith and go ahead with the fight. If Judge Packer's opinions are not valuable as guides to faith they are at least wonderfully accommodating, and, as Captain Cuttle said of the opinions of Jack Bunsby, "there ain't nothing like em afloat or ashore."

THE SPANISH GUNBOATS.

From the N. Y. Times. The efforts which are being made to assist the independence party in Cuba on the one hand, and to cripple them on the other, are fast producing complications of unusual public interest. On each side there are arrayed many friends, and it certainly is not because money is scarce, or activity is wanting, that formidable expeditions have not been fitted out from our coasts. The partisans of both sides have been untiring in their endeavors to further their plans from so convenient a point as the United States. Now, however, the plot thickens every day.

It is said that a privateer, which sailed from Halifax, is now off our coast waiting for an opportunity of striking a blow at Spanish commerce. The vessel in question, the Hor-net, was purchased for "the Republic of Cuba" at sea, and at sea also was armed and equipped. So runs the story. By various devices another vessel, called the Alabama, is said to have escaped from this port a week ago, with arms and men for the insurgents. It is impossible either to verify or disprove these statements, but we must admit that in the case of the Hornet they are so circumstantial in their character as to compel us to

accept them. While these movements are reported on behalf of the Cubans, we have witnessed the preparation of a strong fleet of gunboats for he Spanish Government. What may be the intended destination of these boats we do not know; the Peruvian Minister is of opinion that they are to be used against Peru. Certain it is that they were ordered by agents of the Spanish Government, and that it is generally surmised they have been built not for ornament, but for use. The representatives of Spain in this country are anxious to have the flotilla depart as quickly as possible, and they maintain that the United States Government has no power to stop it. We cannot argue this point, because it is too clear to admit of doubt, that if reasonable cause can be shown by the Peruvian Minister, these vessels can be detained. The course which the administration has hitherto pursued is a guarantce that no violation of international law will be permitted. The case of the gunboats is, no doubt, one of great difficulty to decide. We have not recognized the insurgents in Cuba as belligerents, and Spain can, if she is so minded, build vessels here for the preservation of peace in her own territories. If it be proved that the gunboats are designed for Cuba, we shall have no right to stop them. But they are detained on complaint of the Peruvian Minister. A power with which we are at peace represents that a hostile fleet is being fitted out in our ports against her.

What, then, is to be done? We believe we shall be found correct in predicting that the Government will not allow these Spanish gunboats to leave the wharves and docks where they now lie until some security is given with reference to their destination. The rumor that the departure of the vessels will be connived at is without foundation. A vigilant watch is being kept over them, and we anticipate that it will be maintained, and the gunboats kept where they are, unless the Spanish authorities can make out an indisputable case for their release. Spain can find no cause of offense in this. We are bound to pay heed to the representations which have been mad; on behalf of Peru. The position of our Government is doubtless not one which it would voluntarily have assumed, but having a duty to fulfil, it will perform it without hesitation. If the Hornet is waiting for any of the Spanish gunboats, she is likely to be disappointed.

THE CRISIS TO BE MET. Horace Greeley, in the Beaver Radical,

The Republican party was called into existence by a gigantic crime—the overthrow in the interest of human slavery of one of the historic landmarks of our country. Slavery

public; slavery had taken the lion's share, be cause (it was assumed) the whole of Louisiana purchase belonged to her before Jefferson bought it; but now that New Mexico, California, and all between them, had come to us free, she repudiated her own rule, and insisted that all these should be opened to her incursions, and made subject to her law. Her champions asserted that a territory became so subject by the naked fact of becoming a part of our national domain; and the Supreme Court, by its Dred Scot decision, seemed to concur in this monstrous dictum. The free North appealed; and Lincoln's first election was a popular reversal of the Court's atrocious doctrine.

The Republican party has ever applied its principles to the facts directly under contem-plation. When slavery clutched at the Territories, it resisted on the sound and just assumption that slavery was a creature of posi tive law, and that the law must be produced (not inferred) to enable one man to hold another as his chattel. When slavery rebelled against this, saying in effect to the Union, 'Your life or mine!" the Republican party took up the gage and said, "It shall be yours then!" and, after a desperate struggle, made good its resolution. The Union is completely and firmly restored, simply because slavery is destroyed.

-"But what shall be done with the four millions of freedmen?" became at once the paramount question. It could not be evaded—it could not be postponed. Consign those four millions to political nonentity and the South was still essentially rebel, and would so make herself felt in the national councils She would inevitably regard and treat the national authority, the national debt, as results of her overthrow and proofs of her humiliation. Safety conspired with justice in demanding that the millions whom 'the Union had freed should be clothed by the Union with all the rights of freemen-of citizens. The Civil Rights act and the Reconstruction measures, in so far as they affirmed and secured the freedmen in all the rights of citizenship, were as essential to the overthrow and stamping out of the Rebellion as were Gettysburg, Mission Ridge, and Appomattox.

Of course, the party at the North which had ever sympathized with the Rebels opposed enfranchisement as they had opposed "coercion" and emancipation. Those who agreed with Buchanan and Jerry Black in their premise that the Union could be peacefully kicked out of a loyal State, and could only return as a trespasser, naturally held that everything done in defense of the Union, from "invading" the "sacred soil" of Vir-ginia to giving the ballot to the freedmen, was usurpation and outrage. Regarding slavery as the real constitution of our country, they necessarily deprecated every act hostile to slavery as aimed at the vitals of the Constitution.

-Who wishes to retrace our weary, rugged way from 1860 to 1869? Who continues to regret the "coercion" of those who opened fire on Fort Sumter, and compelled Major Anderson to strike to them the flag of the Union that waved over that national fortress? Who laments the burial of slavery under the ruins of the Rebellion? Let him take his stand with Packer, the Copperhead Congress-man, against Geary, the Union soldier. There he belongs, and thence no logic, no entreaty, ean draw him. So long as his heart is in the common grave of slavery and the Rebellion, his vote is the natural perquisite of his fellow mourners, whereof no one can deprive

But the Republican-the man who felt the defeats of Bull Run, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville as personal calamities-whose heart sank within him as the national flag down, and soared in exultation wh Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans, Little Rock, Atlanta, Savannah, Charleston, and Richmond were successively recovered by the armies of the Union-how can he hesitate or be lukewarm? Does he not believe in "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," whether they inhabit the green hills of Vermont or the rice swamps and sea islands of Carolina? What right has the Union to exist that is not grounded in the inalienable rights of man?

Four years ago, the people of Connecticut were summoned to vote on the question-"Shall black men be henceforth voters at our elections on the same terms with whites?" Of course, every hater of Republican principles and Republican victories was on hand to vote as his sympathies dictated; while some thousands of Republicans faltered and hung back. They guessed we had done enough for the "niggers," without making them voters. Eighteen months thereafter, the Republicans est the State for the lack of the votes of those very "niggers," when they would certainly have saved it had not one-tenth of them proved recreant to principle and the other nine-tenths by failing to vote for equal rights. Had the paltry creatures seen the ength of their noses-much less their earshey would have realized that in voting against be "niggers," they were voting their enemies into power. And the State, though desperately contested, was not recovered till Gen. Grant ran for President.

The blacks of Pennsylvania are not a formidable body; but they are strong enough to have saved four districts to the Republicans in the last election of Representatives in Concress, and kept Philadelphia out of the hands of the ruffians who, by fraudulent voting stole her chief offices last October. They are said to be ignorant; but the most benighted among them can tell a sham Domo-erat from a real champion of government by the whole people, and that is more discern-ment than tens of thousands manifest who call themselves white. There is not a valid reason for denying them the right of suffrage which would not exclude a large proportion of the whites also from the ballot-box, and render power no longer the right of the many but the privilege of the few.

Republicans of Pennsylvania, men of priniple and character, if the blacks living peacefully and honestly among you ought not to be clothed with the right of suffrage, then your brothers and sons, whose bones whiten Grant's bloody track through the Wilderness, and who went down like grass before the Rebel rifle-pits at Coal Harbor and the entrenchments around Petersburg, died as the fool dieth. Your State has fairly ratified the fifteenth amendment. The election of Packer will be hailed by every unchanged Rebel and Northern sympathizer with Rebellion as a reversal of that ratification—as a decision that none but whites should ever vote. If you know why you are Republicans and what your principles mean, put forth your mightiest exertions now and till the close of the polls for Geary and the whole Republican ticket!

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

MOT REPUBLICAN MASS MEETINGS.—THE UNION REPUBLICAN STATE OF STRAIL, GOAL METTER have made arrangements for MASS MEETINGS as follows, viz:— Beaver-Hen. John Scott, Hon. G. A. Grow, H. Bucher Brighton (Evening)—Hon. John Scott, H. Bucher

Swepe, Esq.
Oil City, Venango county—Governor J. W. Geary, General John L. Swift.
Bloom-burg—Hon, James Pollock.
Milton—Captain G. W. Curry, Hon James A. Briggs.
Sharon—Hon, John Allison.
West Newton—Hon, William Williams, Colonel A. S.
Fuller.

West Newton—Hon. William Williams, Colonel A. S. Fuller,

WEDNESDAY, October 6.

Titusville—Governor J. W. Geary.
New Castle—Hon. John Scott, H. Bucher Swope, Esq.,
Hon. John Allisen.
Cattwissa—Captain G. W. Curry, Hon. James A. Briggs.
Harrison City—Hon. William Williams, General William Blakely, Colonel A. S. Fuller,
Warren—Hon. J. H. Els, Hon. J. H. Sypher,
Norristown—Major A. R. Calboun, Capt. A. W. Norris.

"HURSDAY, October 7.
Mercer—Hon. John Sortt, H. Bucher Swope, Esq.,
Kittanning—Hon. G. A. Grow, Hon. J. H. Sypher,
Berwick—Captain G. W. Curry.
Irwin's Station—General John L. Swift, Colonel A. S.
Fuller,

Lewisburg-Hon, James Pottock, General Joshus T. Owen. Gettysburg-Major A. R. Calhoun, J. M. Vanderslice,

Lock Haven—Hon, J. H. Ela. Huntingdon—Daniel Kalbfus, Hon. T. J. Bigham. Williamsport—Hon. James A. Briggs. Mount Joy-Hon. A. Wilson Henszey. White Horse, Delaware county—J. W. Bear, Esq., T. V.

White Horse, Delaware county—J. W. Bear, Esq., T. V. Cooper, Esq.
Marcus Hook, Delaware county—Hon. J. M. Broomali,
J. T. Coates, M. D.
FRIDAY, October S.
Meadville—Gov. J. W. Geary, Hon. John Scott, H.
Bucher Swopo, Esq.
Tyrone—Hon. T. J. Bigham, Daniel Kalbfus, Esq.
Millyille—Captain G. W. Curry,
Sunbury—Hon. James Poliock,
Bellfonte—Hon. J. H. Kla.
Columbia—Hon. John W. Forney,
Chambersburg—Majar A. R. Calhoun, J. M. Vanderslice, Esq.

Chambersburg—Majar A. R. Calhoun, J. M. Vanderalice, Esq.
Hollidaysburg—General John I., Swift.
Franklin—Hen. J. H. Sypher, Colonel H. C. Alleman.
Carlisle—Hen. A. Wilson Henszey.
SATURDAY, October 9.
Fris—Gov. J. W. Geary, Hon. John Scott.
Corry—Hen. G. A. Grow.
Shamokin—Hen. A. Wilson Henszey, James W. M. Newlin, Esq.
Lebanon—Hen. James Pollock.
Freeburg, Snyder county—Hen. J. H. Ela, A. H. Chase,
Esq.

Freeburg, Snyder county—Hon. J. H. Els, A. H. Chase, Esq.
Albien, Erie county—H. Bucher Swope, Esq.
Jamestown—Hon. John Allison.
McAllisterville—Hon. T. J. Bigham.
Mifflin (Evening)—Hon. T. J. Bigham.
Mifflin (Evening)—Hon. T. J. Bigham.
Latrobe—Hon. William Williams, Colonel A. S. Fuller.
Ephrata—Major A. R. Calnoun, J. M. Vanderslice, Esq.
Saltsburg—General John L. Swift.
Clarion—Hon. J. H. Sypher, Colonel H. C. Alleman.
Phoenixville, Daniel Kalbfus, Esq.
Reading—Benjamin Haywood, Esq.
Upper Darby, Delaware county—Hon. W. Townsend,
Hon. J. M. Broomall.
Sunbury—Hon. James A. Briggs, Captain G. W. Curry.
Chester—T. V. Cooper.
MONDAY, October II.
Danville, Montour county—Gov. J. W. Geary.
Harrisburg—Hon. James Pollock.
Mount Pleasant—Hon. William Williams, Colonel A. S.
Fuller.

Fuller. Winfield, Union county—Hon. J. H. Ela, A. H. Chase, Esq. Selin's Grove—Hon. James A. Briggs.
Scranton—Major A. R. Calboun, Captain G. W. Curry.
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\$12.65 40,178'88 1,813'0 116,563 78

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